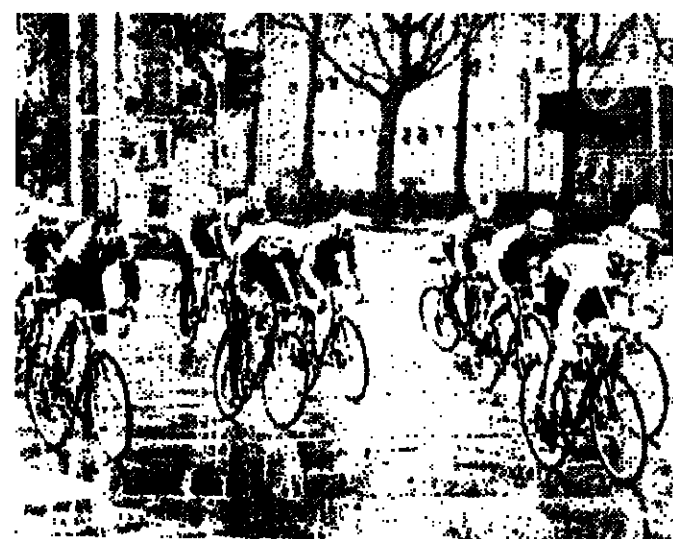


SPORTS



First road races this season

17-year-old Oleg Yemelyanov from Smolensk, silver medalist of the latest world youth bunch race championship, triumphed in the 50 km road race (photo) at the national under-18 road race championship.

The contest, held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, opened a new season for the young racers, whose pinnacle will be the world championship scheduled in France on August 12-19.

The road racers preparing for the Peace Race and the

Olympics are also having their first meets this season. April will be a particularly busy month for them as all the aspirants to the national Olympic team will be put through their paces in races in Greece, West Germany and Italy.

Among the hopefuls are Olympic champions Sergei Sukhoruchenkov, Oleg Logvin and Yuri Kashirin, and world champions Oleg Chuzhda, Sergei Navolokin and Alexander Zinoviyev.

FINALISTS CONTINUE CONTEST

In the world chess championship both the men and women continue their contests. Lina Levitina of Leningrad beat Li diya Semyonova of Kiev in two games out of the first three they have played so far, with only the first game drawn.

In Vilnius, the match between Vasily Smyslov of Moscow and Gari Kasparov of Baku is being played with much greater intensity.

The two contenders drew the first two games. Winning the third game, Kasparov now leads 2-1.

SOVIET FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP GETS OFF THE GROUND

The first tour has been played in the 47th USSR Football Championship. Although it is far too early to make any predictions, the experience of the two previous championships suggest that the rest of the championship will be interesting. The two latest champions, Dynamo of Minsk and the Dnieper of Dnepropetrovsk, used to be somewhere in the middle of the tournament table and never dreamed of becoming champions. But filled with resolve to fight for gold medals, they eventually won places at the top.

This year's championship will show just how serious the intentions of the new favorites are, and it is quite possible that some of the more "inconspicuous" teams will join the

fray for gold.

Last year's season was not very successful for the USSR national team. Their disappointing defeat by Portugal pushed the team out of the European championship. They are now faced with the need to fight their way through to the final stage of the world championship. It is not even certain whether our Olympic team will emerge in the finals of the Olympics.

Three of our clubs taking part in the European Cups quarterfinals were beaten in the first few matches. We hope that in the return games they will meet with better success. The 1984 football season has now been launched.

Gennady LEONOV

Keegan quits football

One of the strongest European footballers, Englishman Kevin Keegan, is quitting the game this season. He has captained the national side more than once, and whose jersey he donned 64 times. He was voted by news men the best player of Europe. Now, at 33, Keegan thinks that the time has come to say good bye to football.

Football, he told newsmen, helped me make many friends in different countries, and I would therefore like to arrange a farewell match between the Newcastle team for which I play now and an all-world team in which I'd like to see many of my friends. If FIFA agrees to

this, the match will be held in spring.

Over 20 years have passed since FIFA set up an all-world team, which met Britain to mark the 110th anniversary of the English Football Association.

The goal of the then all-world side was defended by noted Soviet footballer Lev Yashin who was considered the best goalkeeper at the time. Alongside him were such aces as Di Stefano of Spain, Eusebio of Portugal, and Santos of Brazil.

It has been decided since then to celebrate great occasions by games involving an all-world side.

Vladimir McHILLIN

SKI-JORING ON MOTORCYCLES

Motorski-joring held this winter at Ruhpolding, West Germany, provided a lot of concern for the organizers. First due to the lack of snow they had to fill the local stadium with 700 cm of snow. Later high temperatures caused the snow to melt and the racers became stuck in it, which is why the speeds dropped considerably.



WHAT IS 'KYUR'?

A pleasant surprise awaited spectators who visited the Central Army Club horse-ground in Moscow, which was the venue for the USSR dressage cup Show for the first time was "Kyur" — a dressage event with musical accompaniment. The judges assessed 12 exercises, with marks given both for technical merit and artistic impression. Olga Scherba (a Diplomat) prevailed over Olympic champion Yuri Kovshov riding Rukh in a very close competition.

Young Ukrainian rider Olga Klimko, winner of the Tournament of Soviet Nations, won the dressage Grand Prix at the same horse-ground, astride Barbaris.

Yuri Kovshov and another Olympic champion, Yelena Fetisheva, who rode Kheva related to her celebrated Papai, came second and third.

Olga KHROMOVA



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POLITBUREAU WEEKLY MEETING

At its regular weekly meeting the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee considered the preliminary results of the nationwide discussion of the CPSU Central Committee's draft project "Basic guidelines for the reform of secondary and vocational schools".

It was stressed that the discussion of the draft had acquired national dimensions. Ways of improving the school work were subjected to thorough examination at meetings of work collectives, in secondary and vocational schools, in establishments of higher education and technical colleges, and at teachers' conferences. The draft was the subject of businesslike discussion at parents' meetings. Every day there were articles in the press and TV and radio programmes on the subject.

As a result of the nationwide discussion many valuable comments and suggested additions were received. The Politbureau agreed with proposals put forward by the Commission for the Reform of Secondary and Vocational Schools that these comments and additions be inserted in the appropriate legal enclaves, and that they be taken into consideration when improving the work of educational establishments.

The meeting approved the patriotic initiative shown by the collectives of builders of the Baikal-Amur Mainline (BAM) who have undertaken socialist commitments to complete, ahead of schedule, the laying of the main railroad track — by the 67th anniversary of the Great October — and to open whole line to traffic a year earlier than planned. The Politbureau noted that this initiative on the part of the work force is of major political and economic significance. The early opening of the line to traffic will help to accelerate the development of productive forces of Siberia and the Far East, making the large stocks of coal, timber and other natural resources available to the economy. The appropriate Party, Soviet, Trade Union and YCL bodies as well as Ministries and Departments have been instructed to render all-out assistance to the work collectives and public organizations of the BAM in the implementation of their commitment, to intensify measures for accelerated construction along the Mainline of housing and cultural and everyday facilities, and to make full use of the opportunities afforded by the socialist emulation drive to fulfill targets for the manufacture and delivery to the project of machinery, equipment and materials.

(Continued on page 2)

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'An act of piracy on the high seas'

Andrei Gromyko, Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs, has delivered a note from the USSR Government to a Charge d'Affaires at the United States Embassy in Moscow which reads as follows: On March 20, the Soviet tanker, "The Lugansk", hit a mine and was damaged while approaching the Nicaraguan port of San Juan. A number of the crew were wounded.

The Soviet Government lays responsibility for this serious crime, which is an act of piracy on the high seas, on the US Government.

The Soviet note stresses that it is common knowledge that the United States is engaged in



The current mass anti-war demonstrations in Spain are demanding a referendum on the country's participation in NATO and a withdrawal of American military bases from Spain.

Photo BFA-TASS

(Continued on page 2)

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

'Large-scale provocation against the world'

This is the title of a recent Pravda editorial which reads as follows:

The large-scale anti-missile system which has been designed by the United States to protect its territory, as well as the territories of several other countries, including both civilian and military targets, can only have one aim — to create a shield under whose cover it would be possible to plan a devastating nuclear blow against the other side, without fear of retaliation or else counting on a substantial reduction in the power of such retaliation.

The inexorable logic of nuclear confrontation in the modern age is such that plans to set up a ramified system of defense against ballistic missiles rather than pursuing purposes of defence, turn out to be an inseparable element of a policy geared towards acquiring first-strike capability and attainment of military superiority.

In itself, the desire to disrupt the existing equilibrium in strategic forces by deploying a ramified anti-missile system in space and on earth amounts to an act of defiance and provocation against the Soviet Union and the world whose influence is calculated to be felt for many years ahead.

The Soviet Union will not stand idly by watching all these militaristic preparations. The United States will never gain military superiority over the socialist countries even if it puts its new armaments into space. The only result of such actions will be to intensify the danger of catastrophe, while the process of curbing the arms race will be seriously undermined.

DAINGEROUS NATO DIRECTIVE

London. The NATO Naval Command has devised a new directive which provides for first use of massive fire power.

The new directive makes it obligatory for commanders of NATO warships and naval planes to be the first to use all fire power at their disposal in "critical situations". The directive sanctions such strikes in cases when enemy actions are regarded as "provocative". According to "The Daily Telegraph", the instruction demands that the commanders resort to swift decisive action.

The text of the document, one of whose initiators was the US Secretary of the Navy, Admiral John Lehman, is to be discussed officially at a forthcoming NATO session in Brussels. However, the tactics forming its basis have long been used by the bloc.

The newspaper points out that though the new directive is to receive an official stamp of approval at the meeting, in practice its provisions have been compulsory for NATO member-countries for sometime.

LIFE GETS BACK TO NORMAL IN GAZLI AFTER EARTHQUAKE

A strong earthquake in Central Asia has damaged towns and villages in the Bukhara Region of Uzbekistan. The epicentre was not far from the town of Gazli. This new town for gas extractors in the Kyzylkum has been struck once again by the elements after having been raised from ruins after the 1970 earthquake. The tremors here reached 9 on the Richter scale.

The first task was to provide the population with medical aid and accommodation. A canvas tent village has been put up near Gazli.

Non-stop convoys of lorries drive along the Bukhara-Gazli highway, carrying food, mattresses, building materials and medicines to the disaster area. Workers from all parts of the republic are arriving to repair the damaged houses and enterprises. Electricity, gas and water supplies were quickly restored. A new plan for the rebuilding of Gazli is already being drawn up. Meanwhile repairs to the buildings that survived are going at full speed.

ANNA KONDRASHOVA WALKS OFF WITH SILVER MEDAL

The world figure-skating championship in Ottawa, Canada, began with a joyful event for Soviet figure skating lovers. 18-year-old Anna Kondrashova, a college student from Moscow, won the women's singles silver medal, the first such grand award in the history of the Soviet figure skating school.

Such a rapid ascent on the podium for Kondrashova was a surprise, even for experts, as she placed only fifth in her debut at last year's world championship. This has been her most successful season to date. She came second in the "Moscow News" Prize tournament, won the bronze medal in the European championship and placed fifth at the 1984 Olympics.

I am happy to have won the silver award at the world championship, even though I think I failed to make full use of my potential on the Ottawa ice, she said after the event.

The first place was taken by 18-year-old Olympic champion, Katarina Witt, of the GDR. World ex-champion, American Elaine Zayak, was third, and Olympic bronze medalist, Kira Iynova, of the USSR, placed fourth.



Anna Kondrashova.

There was hardly any doubt about the success of the Olympic pairs champions, Yelena Volkova and Oleg Vassiliev, of the USSR. After the Olympics the

(Continued on page 3)

The third day decided all

A national record marked the match of the USSR and GDR swimmers just ended in Kharkov. 19-year old Tatyana Kurnikova from Baku swam the 200 m butterfly in 2 min 11.31 sec. The record-holder was also the

best in the 100 m event — 1:00.81.

But as a result of the three-day struggle the visitors proved stronger at 178-166. The point is that on the last day of the match our swimmers won only two events out of a total ten.

Wrestlers compete

Soviet Graeco-Roman wrestlers scored four wins at the international "Liberation Prize" tournament in Hungary, which drew 118 entrants from 13 nations. The first places were taken by Minsent Tseidnuov from Ulyanovsk (under 52 kg), Tairatshin Kalumulin from Omsk (under 57 kg), Mikhail Prokudin from Minsk (under 60 kg), and Igor Rastvorovskiy (over 100 kg) from Karaganda.

The "Challenge Maurice Paquette", the annual international Graeco-Roman wrestling tournament held outside Paris recently, brought success to the USSR. All six Soviet entrants won through in competition with rivals from 11 nations. For the USSR this was the second such tournament, which honours outstanding French athlete and coach, Maurice Paquette.

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DEAR READERS,

"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays and offers in brief the latest information on events in the USSR and in the world reported by TASS and foreign news agencies. Nothing short of the material carried in the editions of both

AFGHANS DEMONSTRATE OUTSIDE U.S. EMBASSY

Kabul. More than 100 thousand citizens of the Afghan capital took part in a demonstration held in front of the US Embassy in Kabul expressing their anger and indignation over White House policy with regard to the DRA.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DRA circulated a sharp protest against President Reagan's anti-Afghan pronouncements. Quito recently reads the declaration, the head of the White House issued yet more inciting and false allegations in connection with the so-called "Day of Afghanistan" which is used by the American administration to fan a campaign of malicious attacks against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Over the past six years, stresses the document, the enemies of the Afghan people have tried in vain to halt the pro-

gressive march of the Afghan Revolution. The United States plays a leading role in the escalation of the armed aggression and propaganda war against the DRA.

The declaration points out that in raising a commotion over the so-called Afghan problem, the US administration is attempting by all means at its disposal to deflect world attention from the adventurist and aggressive militaristic line pursued by the White House. It tries to hush up its criminal interference into the internal affairs of other countries and to subvert the powerful wave of world-wide protest aroused by the US invasion of Grenada, its aggression in Lebanon and armed provocations against Nicaragua, Cuba and other independent states. The "Afghan problem" is one of the pretexts used by the USA to justify its military preparations.

'AN ACT OF PIRACY ON THE HIGH SEAS'

(Continued from page 1)

direct interference into the affairs of the sovereign Central American states and is waging an undeclared war against Nicaragua. Official US agencies finance, train and equip gangs of mercenaries and terrorists who invade Nicaraguan territory, plundering and murdering the civilian population.

It is also known that these groups include representatives of the US special services. Thus the United States is practicing a policy of state terrorism. The Soviet Government protests in no uncertain terms, adds the note, to the US Government over this criminal act perpetrated against the Soviet ship, "The Lugansk", and warns that the United States will bear full responsibility for the consequences which may ensue should this sort of action be continued.

Managua. Following the incident involving the Soviet tanker, "The Lugansk", Daniel Ortega, Member of the National

Leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, Coordinator of the Ruling Council of the Government of National Reconstruction, has cut short his visit to Mexico and returned to Managua.

The Soviet ship fell victim to the aggressive policy of the Reagan administration aimed at suppressing the Sandinista People's Revolution and at unleashing large-scale conflict in Central America. D. Ortega told journalists.

London. "The Times" newspaper writes that responsibility for the mining of Nicaraguan ports has been claimed by one of the counter-revolutionary groupings trained and equipped by the CIA.

The ports of Sandino, Corinto and El Bluff have been mined by a special commando group commanded by an American, the newspaper stresses. The CIA demands that the counter-revolutionaries step up their operations aimed at disrupting deliveries of oil and other cargoes to Nicaragua, "The Times" points out.



Drawing by Yuri Ivanov

Syria: confirming a principled line

Damascus. In conditions of continuing intrigues by imperialism, Zionism and reaction, the Syrian people should strengthen efforts aimed at the development of the national economy and the consolidation of the state sector. This was stressed by Syrian President Hafez al-Assad during a meeting with the members of a recently formed government led by Prime Minister Abdul-Rauf Kassem.

The president confirmed the principled position of Syria in its relations with Arab countries and stressed the need to consolidate inter-Arab solidarity. Syria, he stressed, will continue to give help to the people of Lebanon in the cause of reaching national accord. He spoke highly of the struggle of the Lebanese national patriotic forces, which have achieved the abrogation of the oppressive

agreement with Israel forced on Lebanon by the USA.

The president emphasized that despite the political, economic and military pressure of imperialism led by the USA, Syria will undeviatingly follow an anti-imperialist course.

On the subject of Syrian-Soviet relations, the president noted they were of a long-term nature and met the mutual interests of the peoples of both countries. Our relations are good, he stressed. We have common views on all basic problems. The Soviet Union supports the struggle of the Syrian people. The president urged the members of the government to actively support further development of Syrian-Soviet links and to strengthen cooperation with the USSR and other countries of the socialist community.

ment which was getting on his nerves.

The Reagan administration is also acting very provocatively towards India by covertly or otherwise supporting any forces hostile to her—from separatists in her border areas to the military regime in Pakistan which now receives billions of dollars in arms from the Pentagon. Could the USA be preparing for a large-scale undeclared war here, too? India's anxiety over US plays in Sri Lanka is also understandable where Washington plans to set up a headquarters of the Central Command (CENTCOM) to coordinate operations by its interventionist rapid deployment force.

In the light of the current aggressive US strategy against non-aligned nations there is no doubt, too, about the nature of yet another undeclared war—against Afghanistan, a war that draws funds from the same till, the one which pays for the CIA mercenaries wreaking death and destruction in Nicaragua and other parts of the globe.

The United States undeclared war against non-aligned nations is growing in scale. This, together with a US-inspired escalation in the arms race, is causing more tension and increasing the threat of a world nuclear disaster and contradicts the vital interests of all humanity.

POLITBUREAU WEEKLY MEETING

(Continued from page 1)

The Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee approved the talks between Konstantin Chernenko and Joachim Vogel, member of the Presidium of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, chairman of the SDPG faction in the Bundestag, as well as talks between an SDPG delegation and a group of USSR Supreme Soviet deputies led by Boris Yeltsin.

The main topic discussed was European unity and the curbing of the arms race. In view of the agreement of the new armistices in certain West European countries, the Politbureau stressed the importance of points raised during the talks concerning the need to achieve a real change for the better in the dangerous development of events in the world, as well as the arms race, and a step to the nuclear arms pit on the basis of the principle of parity and equal security.

The results of Dmitry Novov's visit to India were discussed. It was noted that meetings and talks with military figures of the Soviet-Indian cooperation.

The Politbureau held a preparatory report by Ad. Gromyko on talks with the Member of the Politbureau of the National Liberation Front, Minister of Information, Algeria Bachir Boula.

In discussing the results of G. A. Aliev's visit to the Syrian Arab Republic, it was stressed that the steady development and expansion of relations between the Soviet Union and Syria answers the interests of the peoples of both countries, and the cause of peace in the Middle East.

The Politbureau also discussed some other questions concerning the implementation of the internal and foreign policy of the CPSU and Soviet State.

EEC: profound crisis

Brussels. Complete distrust and consternation reign in the common market ruling circles following the failure of the European Communities Commission meeting which has ended with a "complete failure" by the Greek Prime Minister, Andreas Papandreu.

Speaking on national television, the French President, Francois Mitterrand, who at the present moment is Chairman of the European Communities Council, admitted that the results of the meeting have caused "disappointment" among the participants, and that the Common Market is now in a state of crisis. The main reason for the failure, he declared, is the position adopted by Great Britain, which has allied itself against the other EEC countries.

In the meantime, the British Prime Minister, Mrs. Thatcher, is speaking in parliament, let it be known that in response to the decision—taken at the emergency meeting of EEC foreign ministers which took place after the Council session—not to pay Britain nearly 630 million dollars out of the common fund, she will review the question of whether to stop paying all contributions to the EEC budget.

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL'S APPEAL

Stockholm. The Socialist International has distributed an appeal to the leaders of the states, participating in the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe.

In the document signed by Willy Brandt and other leaders of the Socialist International, it is noted that there has been a "dramatic deterioration" in the international situation at the present time. The heading arms race threatens prospects for the future, it says. There exists a very real danger that the escalation of armaments will get out of control.

The Stockholm Conference opens up a new possibility for the restoration of mutual trust and for removal of the risk of military confrontation, note the authors of the appeal. This possibility must be used to the full, conducting dialogue and seeking wide-ranging measures which are geographically acceptable and carry a politically binding character for the creation of trust. An end must be put to the dangerous spiral in the nuclear arms race.

It is stressed in the appeal that in the emerging situation efforts must be directed towards creating prerequisites for the resumption of negotiations.

SOVIET EDUCATION CONTRIBUTES TO GHANA'S ECONOMY

Accra. Its 10th anniversary has been celebrated by the Association of Ghanaian graduates from Soviet colleges and universities at a ceremony in the industrial city of Tema not far from the capital.

More than a thousand Ghanaian specialists, who graduated from Soviet higher educational establishments, are now working in different branches of the country's economy. Almost the same number of students from Ghana are now receiving their education in the Soviet Union.

The ceremony was addressed by the Association's President, Victor Agble, and other members of the organization who noted their highly developed skills and the contribution which the graduates of Soviet colleges and universities had made to the development of the national economy. They also expressed gratitude to the USSR for its selfless assistance.

JAPAN: 'New horizons' of militarization

Tokyo. A special council set up by the Japanese prime minister has begun preparing the report "On the ways of ensuring the security of the country". On orders from the head of the government Yasuhiro Nakasone, this document ought to become a "scientific substantiation" of the course of the Japanese conservatives towards a radical increase in the military might of the country and the widening of the scale of its military- strategic cooperation with the USA. According to the "Nihon Keizai Shinbun", the report ought to determine the "new horizons" of Tokyo in the military area. One of the important principles of national policy will be specifically revised—the obligation of the government to restrain budget spending for military purposes at a level of one per cent of the gross national product.

The preparation of the report



The so-called "disengagement of forces" in the south of Angola widely publicized by the Government of South Africa is in fact a sham: virtually no occupation forces are being withdrawn. In the photo: South African troops in Angola. Photo from the "Newsweek" magazine

Report by the Indian foreign affairs ministry

Delhi. A high estimate of Indian-Soviet relations is contained in the monthly report of the Indian foreign affairs ministry submitted for the consideration of the parliament of the country. It stresses that the friendly Soviet Union and other socialist community countries have undertaken further development. Trade and economic cooperation has broadened. The document stresses the importance of continued contacts between the leaders of the two countries.

The report points to differences in the position of India and the USA on several regional and international problems. India is concerned about the supplies of the latest American weapons to

Pakistan. The acquisition by this country of the latest arms from the USA seriously endangers the security interests of India. At the same time the document confirms India's desire to normalize relations with neighbouring states.

The ministry pays special attention to the dangerous nature of the growing militarization of the Indian Ocean. Special worry is caused by the fact that measures are being taken to strengthen and expand the US military base on Diego Garcia island with the aim of ensuring transference of American forces to the zone of the Persian Gulf and other areas of Asia and Africa and by the creation of the US Central Command (CENTCOM).

Science and technology

NO FORGETTING WITH THESE PILLS

Strict observance of the intervals between taking medicine is an indispensable condition for the treatment of many diseases. It is often very difficult to remember how long ago you took the last pill. Engineers from the pharmaceutical company Zianamid decided to help patients in this.

They designed a packing for medicines on the cover of which they inserted a watch of

liquid crystals. When the cover is shut the watch begins to count the time and when opened again returns to "zero".

BUSES RUNNING ON METHANE

Methane gas is the fuel used by passenger buses in the Tirgu Mures, district of Romania. Engineers at the district transport pool modified the two bus models in general use here specifically for this purpose.

The UD-12 buses use both diesel fuel and methane. The former type using cubic metres and the latter 30 cubic metres of methane per 100 km (compared to 35-36 litres of diesel fuel used before the modification).

The TV-20 U buses are being re-equipped to operate only on methane, with 40 cubic metres required per 100 km. Gas fuel considerably decreases air pollution in urban areas. The new method will be used in other districts of Romania as well.

OF INTEREST

Wanted!

The following advertisement recently appeared in a Spanish newspaper:

"A pedigree cock which grows at 6 a.m. to be exchanged for one crowing at 7 a.m." The reporter learnt that the owner of the cock suffered from chronic lack of sleep because of the bird's crowing. He received several offers, none of which proved satisfactory. One bird was dead, another one crows whenever it felt like it as did the third one, only with a British accent, according to its owner.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

JORDAN: REAGAN PLAN FAILED

The newspaper PRAVDA points out that the latest statements by King Hussein of Jordan acquire special significance for the US administration. It is Jordan Washington was counting on, hoping to put into practice the so-called Reagan plan on the Middle East. The USA wanted Jordan to start separate talks with Israel and make the leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organization follow suit.

It is clear that after the crushing defeat in Lebanon which could not be avoided either with the help of the US Marines or with the guns and missiles of the US Sixth Fleet, the US administration needs this plan to be implemented badly, the commentary underlines. The Americans had to get out of Lebanon, the unequal Lebanese-Israeli agreement imposed by Washington was abrogated under 'no pressure of the Lebanese patriotic forces.

However, the USA has suffered another defeat where it was least expected, Washington promised lavish military and economic assistance to Jordan, but this didn't work. Jordan's stand is quite understandable in the atmosphere of growing anti-American feelings in the Arab world which denounces the use of military force by the USA and the pressure and blackmail tactics in Lebanon.

DEMOCRACY TRAMPLED UNDERFOOT

The still confrontation in Pakistan between the military dictatorship and the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy amounts in fact to a civil war, in which one side uses crude force while the other refrains from violence, SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA points out. This makes the methods of "pacifying" the opposition resorted to by General Zia ul-Haq's administration still more abhorrent for the General is aiming his guns at unarmed people. Since he usurped power in 1977 the dictatorship has twice promised elections and twice abandoned its own pledges given to the people, the newspaper reminds. Now comes a new announcement that the authorities intend to hold elections in the country "no later than March 1985" and to abrogate the martial law now in force there.

It is difficult to say at present just how serious these promises are. But it is already clear that if the elections are organized on the principles set forth by dictator Zia ul-Haq, only his men will be found in parliament. The elections are expected to be held on a "non-parity basis", the newspaper notes, and therefore at their core will be the laws of Sharia, in line with which the administration reserves the right to prevent figures not to their liking from participating in them.

USA: IS THE 'OCTOBER VERSION' POSSIBLE?

Commenting on the pre-election campaign in the United States, ZVESTIA's political observer A. Boyin writes, that the US president and his advisers understand that the dangerous idea "Reagan is war" is spread throughout the country. So it is not for nothing that in recent months the president has been talking so much about peace, negotiations and disarmament. The image of a reckless cowboy has been hastily replaced by the image of a wise statesman who is taking care to prevent war. And what if the elections still don't believe the change of heart? Well, apparently there is another version in reserve described as the "October surprise".

Let us remember that most Americans applauded the occupation of Grenada. It was this kind of national chauvinism that Reagan exploited to the full in 1980. Here it is, the "great and powerful" America. It has overcome Grenada. Thus the idea of the "October surprise", a new Grenada which must be served up on the eve of the elections.

MALICIOUS INVENTIONS: WHO NEEDS THEM?

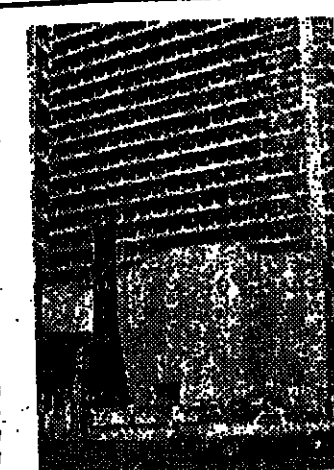
The KRASNAYA ZVEZDA newspaper writes: At the instigation of the Turkish "Gözet" newspaper the foreign press has been spreading false information alleging that Soviet specialists in Iraq are training Iraqi servicemen in the use of chemical weapons. This legend was "needed to fan the myth of the 'Soviet military threat'". By whipping up fear of the "communist threat", Turkish reactionary circles hope to justify their actions aimed at strengthening the influence of the United States in Turkey.

Remarkable, too, is that circles in Iran which sanctioned the widespread publicity given to these malicious inventions of the Pentagon and the Turkish press, keep silent about the real source of the provocations. Their aim is clearly to mislead their own people and to arouse in them hostile attitudes towards Iran's neighbour, primarily the Soviet Union, the newspaper points out. Does this not indicate that there are forces still entrenched in Iran left over from the former shah's regime and linked with the United States, which are vitally interested in smearing the Soviet Union and its desire for better relations with Iran?

Water to flow southwards

A construction firm in Bombay, India, is building a 382 m long water duct in the state of Uttar-Pradesh. 350 cubic metres of water per second will pass along the duct which is seven by thirteen metres wide. The walls to be built of prestressed reinforced concrete, will be covered with a triple layer of epoxy resin to protect them against water.

The duct is part of a 250 km canal supplying the arid southern areas of India with surplus water from two tributaries of the Ganges River.



This giant cloth peg stand is downtown Philadelphia.

HOME NEWS

Round the Soviet Union

● **LARGE-SCALE MEASURES HAVE BEEN OUTLINED IN THE USSR TO ENSURE AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE COUNTRY'S FUEL-AND-ENERGY BALANCE UP TO THE END OF THIS CENTURY.** This is stated in a booklet, "Guidelines of the USSR Long-Term Energy Programme", issued by Moscow's Politicheskaya Literatura Publishers. The new approach to the energy problem has in no way been necessitated by a shortage of natural resources. The USSR is the only major industrialized state, which is fully self-sufficient in fuel and energy due to its rich natural resources. The Soviet Union also exports large quantities of fuel and electricity.

● **THE DZERZHINSKY MINE, IN THE CITY OF KRYVOI ROG IN THE UKRAINE, HAS PRODUCED ITS MILLIONTH TONNE OF ORE CONCENTRATE OBTAINED FROM MAGNETITE QUARTZITE.** These so-called poor ores which used to be left underground because of their low iron content were enriched for the first time at the mine five years ago. At present, "re-exploitation" of the other mines in the basin is under way where thousands of millions of tonnes of quartzite have been accumulated.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING BEFORE THE REFORM



This picture was taken at the Moscow Vocational Training School No. 180. The school trains turners, lathe operators, fitters, electricians, radio engineers and workers for some other trades.

There are over 7.5 thousand vocational training schools in this country with a total of over 3.7 million students. During a one- to three-year period, depending on the initial level of learning and the complexity of the chosen trade (training is provided in about 1,400 trades), the students become highly qualified workers.

graduates from vocational training schools make up 80 to 90 per cent of the work force.

In 1984-86 a reform of secondary and vocational training schools will be carried out in the USSR.

According to the draft reform, the attendance of 15-year-olds to vocational training schools will be considerably expanded, to achieve a twofold increase in the future. The student will acquire general education together with vocational training in those schools. Already a considerable number of vocational training schools have the status of secondary schools. All other schools will be brought up to that standard. As a result, young people who finish such schools will not have to attend evening classes when they are employed on a job.

In 1985 three-fourths of the young workers will complete the vocational training system, while over 12 million will receive vocational training during the 11th five-year plan period (1981-85).

Power engineering in the Soviet Far East

The construction of a high-voltage power transmission line has started in the Far East. The 500,000-volt power line stretching for 400 km will be two major industrial centers — Khabarovsk and Komsomolsk-on-Amur. Current from the Zhytylo-power Station will be transmitted, even by the end of the year, to the power potential of the Komsomolsk-on-Amur territorial-industrial complex.

The accelerated growth of productive forces in the modern districts of the Khabarovsk territory demand rapid rate of power development. A large process-stage metallurgical plant is being built at Komsomolsk-on-Amur, and capacity is being stepped up at shipbuilding, heavy, light and food industries. Large power plants, saw-milling and wood-working complexes, situated locally, are being expanded. Other enterprises in the Far East are also being developed.

ROBOTS TO WORK FURNACES

Robots to work furnaces in major industries are now being produced commercially in the USSR.

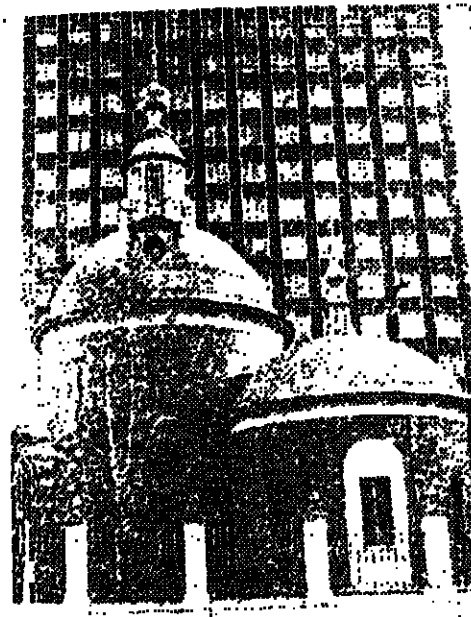
Up to now, the loading of molten metal into the ladles was one of the most difficult operations involved in the production of bricks. Workers exposed to high temperatures several times during a shift. Today this job is done by robots and all that is required of an operator is to press a button.

By the end of the present five-year plan period, robots from Odessa will be introduced at 25 construction materials factories.

HOME NEWS

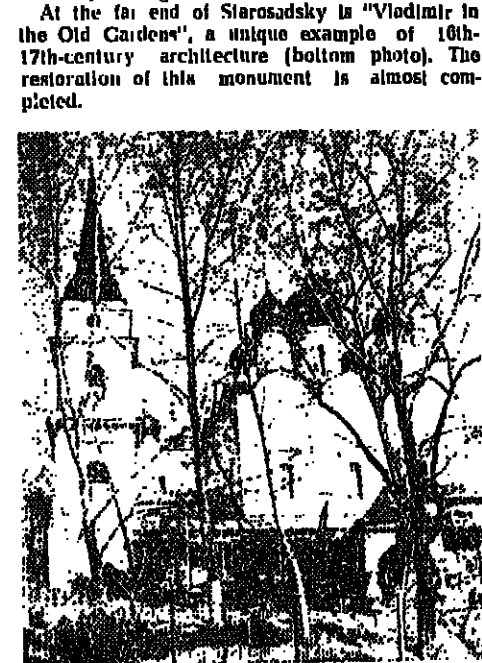
Places to visit

TWO MASTERPIECES



The Strossovsky (Old Garden) side-street in the center of Moscow, has a name which reminds us of the gardens that used to rustle on the slopes here about five hundred years ago. There are two remarkable architectural monuments in the side-street, one at each end: the former Church of Cosma and Damian (top photo), built in classical style in the late 18th century by Mikhail Kazakov, the architect, to whom we owe many of the beautiful buildings which adorn our city. The church was restored fifteen years ago.

At the far end of Strossovsky is "Vladimir in the Old Garden", a unique example of 16th-17th-century architecture (bottom photo). The restoration of this monument is almost completed.



Science and technology

PROSPECTS OF ORE-DRESSING INDUSTRY

The decision to shut down the Khrushchinsky ore-dressing mill in the Soviet Far East, where the production of polymetallic ore became impractical following the sharp reduction in its mineral composition, has been cancelled. Leningrad experts suggested a quick method of photometrical controlling locally produced raw material prior to processing. As a result one-third of the ore — barren rock — is dumped at once into a disposal area.

Called the preliminary concentration method this makes it possible to achieve impressive cuts in the volume of rock to be crushed, since the process of rock crushing consumes up to 40 per cent of energy in the ore-dressing industry. Results achieved over several years from the introduction of this method into enrichment technology have been shown to be tantamount to putting into operation a number of big new mineral deposits.

Specialists link the prospective development of preliminary concentration with the introduction of radiometrical analysis, whose development has been pioneered by the Soviet Union. The method, based on the use of X-ray radiation, is capable of determining instantaneously the mineralogical composition of any rock in a truck body.

A SAFEGUARD FOR YAKUTIA

Soviet scientists have finalized the large-scale project of testing rare species of plants and animals found in Yakutia, reports I. Shcherbakov, Dr. Sc. (Biology), director of the Yakut Division of the USSR Academy of Sciences. For example, a natural hybrid of mountain ash

and black-fruited large can be found nowhere else in the world. In the lower reaches of the Lena, the scientists found the black-capped marmot, while the graceful white crane has long been protected as a rare species.

The study is soon to appear as a publication. The Red Data Book of Yakutia, as it will probably be called, will contain descriptions of about 300 species of plants and animals and with recommendations as to how to protect them.

NEW LEMON VARIETY

The lemons of Georgia are no longer afflicted with the fruit disease Mal secco. Diskuria — a new variety developed by plant breeders of this Transcaucasian republic overcame this threatening fungus.

The new lemon has many other merits. Its yield per hectare is 2.5 tonnes more than that of most other varieties, it can withstand extreme temperatures and eliminates a number of labour-intensive operations normally involved with its care.

The first plantation growing the new variety covers 100 hectares and by 1990 the area will reach 1,200 hectares.

OCEANIC PLANKTON EVALUATED

Soviet oceanologists maintain that the overall weight of microscopic organisms living in the World Ocean is about 28,000 million tonnes. These include phytoplankton and zooplankton. This evaluation was made on the basis of data provided by 125 stations located in various regions in the Pacific, the Indian and the Atlantic oceans.

Samples were taken during the voyages by ships belonging to the Institute of Oceanology of the USSR Academy of Sciences, which specialize in biology. Temperate zones were found to be the most heavily populated. Up to 80 per cent of the world's plankton is found there. The tropical zone accounts for only 30 per cent.

The regions preferred by plankton have been mapped and are used for fishing.

ELECTRIC STATIONS IN THE OCEAN

The development of towns in the open sea is not an unreal project for the future, mainly scientists working for the Institute of Engineering Problems, at the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences in Kharkov. They have suggested an effective power supply for such floating settlements.

The upper layer of water in the tropical and subtropical areas of the planet is heated by the sun up to 30°C, while at a depth of several hundred metres the water is only 5°C to 10°C. It was suggested that this temperature gradient be put to good use to produce electric energy using a special device. It is a turbine rotated by a gas-fluid flow which is formed by making sea water boil in vacuum. The used steam is condensed under the influence of cold water which is pumped through a special piping from deep layers. A pilot installation has already been tested. The ocean's warm layer can produce 200 times more energy than mankind now needs. So the floating settlements will be able to meet their own requirements and supply surplus energy to the dry land.

Chameleon-volcano

The mud volcano Zvezdyk on the Chirchik in the Caspian Sea has usually behaved in such a manner that the best name for it was considered to be chameleon. Until recently the lake surrounding the crater was coloured pink. Suddenly its water turned dark green. One of the first to notice it were the scientists of the Turkmenian Oil Research and Design Institute.

The colour of the lake's water helps determine what chemical processes are taking place in the volcano's crater. It is well known to geologists that compounds of iron impart to the rock a reddish colour, compounds of cobalt — light-blue and so on.

Why was the crater lake pink before? It was established that the water turned this colour due to the purple sulfuric bacteria which developed owing to the presence of hydrogen sulfide. Researchers explain the dark green colour of water by the fact that oil finds its way into the lake from the deep layers. Numerous oil drops were spotted in the water and on the brink of the crater.

EVERYTHING ABOUT THE BICYCLE

An exhibition dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet bicycle-manufacturing industry has opened at the Polytechnical Museum in Moscow.

The first Soviet bicycle was made in 1924 in Kharkov. Next a bicycle factory was built in Penza. Then the best racing cyclist of the day competed riding the new machines from Penza to Moscow.

This country now manufactures over five million bicycles annually. Ranged alongside the convenient, light-weight, fast models of today are bikes made in earlier times. In the early 1900s, for example, some enthusiasts rode wooden machines which they had to propel along the road with their feet.

A bicycle with a huge front wheel was known as a "spider".

Compact collapsible bicycles were all the rage at the beginning of the 20th century. Their merits were highly praised by Leo Tolstoy who, apart from being one of Russia's writers,

was also president of the Russian amateur bicycle-riders' society.

On view are many modern variations of the traditional bicycle, some of which have been adopted for serial production.



An 1880 tricycle exhibited by the Tallian club "Unik".

VIEWPOINT

WAS IT WORTH PLOUGHING THE VIRGIN LANDS?

Alexander GUBER

Today, when this country is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the development of the Virgin Lands, this question seems hardly appropriate — even though it is usually phrased as follows: wouldn't it have been better to channel efforts into the development of the Non-Black Earth Zone and other traditional agricultural areas?

Let us go back 30 years ago, to 1954, when the development of the Virgin Lands started. Grain harvests at the time were much lower than before the war. The short supply of grain was a serious drag on the national economy, primarily animal husbandry and checked the raising of living standards of Soviet people. The problem called for an immediate solution. The Virgin Lands alone could yield prompt results.

In the space of several years, Virgin Landers developed 42 million hectares — more than a quarter of the country's total crop land before the war.

Why did we opt for the Virgin Lands and not for, say, the Non-Black Earth Zone where rain and snow are usually sufficient and droughts are not as frequent as in the steppes of Kazakhstan?

There were several reasons for this.

Seventy-five per cent of the Non-Black Earth Zone is arid-soil land. Ten per cent is marsh land. Five per cent is stony soil. Nine per cent is small forest and scrub land. This land, experts say, is responsive to amelioration and fertilization. In other words, it can produce high and stable yields when it gets enough of both treatments. It is an uphill task, even today, to carry out a sufficient amount of land reclamation work in the Non-Black Earth Zone and provide it sufficiently with fertilizers. In the 1950s, the idea was quite unworkable for the obvious lack of economic and technical resources.

There is another fundamental reason. The Non-Black Earth Zone had and has at the time no big tracts of arable land available for ploughing. That, in contrast to the Virgin Lands, greatly reduces the efficiency of machinery. The final tally showed that one would have to spend several times more per hectare or per tonne in the Non-Black Earth Zone than in the Virgin Lands to get greater grain crop yields. And that even considering the drop in crop figures especially characteristic of the Virgin Lands in the first years.

The outlays to develop the Virgin Lands have paid off long ago. As early as 1954-61, the Virgin Lands brought in more than 3,600 million roubles in net profit. Today, the USSR and many produce more than twice the amount of grain it did before the Virgin Lands development. Our crop farming, now spread over a wider geographic area, is less affected by freaks of nature. Many agricultural techniques originated in the Virgin Lands are now profitably used in traditionally agricultural areas.

In short, the development of the Virgin Lands has paid for itself, although they are far from having realized their potential.

WITHOUT ADDITIONAL EXPENSE

A catalytic cracking unit which has gone into operation at the Novo-Belinsky oil refinery in Azerbaijan, a Transcaucasian republic, makes it possible to increase production of quality gasoline, without the need for additional raw materials. The unit enables the works to produce more light derivatives.

For instance, the use of heavy oil components, left over after distillation and earlier used as boiler fuel, makes possible increased production of high-octane gasoline at the works.

The retarding of the oil refining industry in Azerbaijan is proceeding at a rapid pace. Powerful complexes for oil refining, as well as for catalytic

refining have been put into operation in recent years. The production of a tonne of fuel requires five per cent less raw material than at the beginning of the five-year plan period (1981-85). The reconstruction will also help solve a number of ecological problems.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

OIL FROM OLD WELLS

Oil is once again gushing from a well near the Sogdsk settlement in the Poltava Region in the Ukraine, after 25 years of inactivity, writes PRAVDA. Last year alone it yielded over 2,000 tonnes, thanks to processes and equipment developed by Ivano-Frankovsk researchers. The new technique helps continue work on a deposit earlier considered used up.

The drilling operations are coupled with the cementing of multiple pores and cracks in the ground, used by oil not unlike the blood vessels, which accumulate in the well. As a result an underground reservoir becomes inaccessible to oilmen some time after the start of its exploitation.

The new method is based on the so-called multiple surprise pressure differentials. In the process oil or gas is removed from the shaft making way for a drilling fluid which sharply raises the pressure causing a life not unlike one at sea: the oil instantly regains ground, breaking down the obstacles in its way. The cleaned layers become porous again and the oil in the well is once again easily accessible, the paper points out.

THE SUN ON THE BAIKAL-AMUR RAILWAY

Though the climate in the region of the Baikal-Amur Railway in Eastern Siberia is very severe, the number of clear days is 150, or roughly half the year. The central heating season there lasts from seven to nine months. Given these conditions, it is rather tempting to begin implementing solar heating. The magazine VODOSNABZHENIYE SANITARNAYA TEKHNIKA writes about an experiment which has been carried out there.

In order to find out just how promising solar heating could be, an experiment was carried out. A solar radiation air heater was assembled in a special experimental house in the town of Tynda. It consisted of a corrugated metal screen painted black. This screen was made part of a wall. At night, the screen was covered by special protective heat-insulating shutters from within the building. The solar radiation heated the black screen which, in turn, warmed up the air in the rooms.

What are the benefits of such a simple device? It has turned out that the use of the solar radiation air heater throughout the year reduced the consumption

of electricity needed to heat the building by 25 per cent.

It is obvious that solar energy would be particularly advantageous in the heating of public buildings which are used mostly during the day, such as kindergartens, schools, canteens, etc. The simple, non-freezing solar heaters would not only reduce fuel consumption, but would also lower pollution levels.

MOSKVICH CARS: A TEST FOR FLEXIBILITY

Profound qualitative changes are taking place in the Soviet national economy. Some of these changes can be seen at the Moskvich collective, a production association in Moscow, in preparing to produce a new car generation. The enterprise is also renovating itself. Among other things, it is adopting a more flexible automated system of production.

This initiative is described in the newspaper IZVESTIA by Valentin Kolomoikov, Director-General of the Moskvich association.

Life itself demanded that we introduce the type of technology which could be readjusted quickly in a situation where the design of a car must be changed under the influence of demand. This means replacing machine tools performing individual operations with automated technological complexes which can be readjusted to another type of work with the aid of computers.

Previously we could not do this because of the low level in technological development. First generation computers were awkward and unwieldy, there were few microprocessors, and those few did not possess sufficient reliability. However, today computers are compact, the microprocessors are reliable, and modern manipulators can reach those parts in a car where previously only the human hand could get to. These successes in electronic and microprocessor technology opened the way for their operation in the factory's workshops where they are widely used in complex mechanization of production and when production must be transferred to more flexible systems. Such are the dictates of our time, and this is also demanded by the need for a sharp increase in production efficiency. Even today, we are envisaging eleven makes of Moskvich car, taking into account diverse consumer demand and the purposes for which they are to be used. These models include an ordinary coupe, a sports make, and a cargo-and-passenger taxi. We are also thinking about making a minibus and a micro-trolley, which is much needed by trading organizations. Another possible model is a cross-country four-wheel

drive vehicle. All these models will be assembled on the same chassis, with an engine of the same power rating, and in the same production capacities without any additional expenditure. The first car to be manufactured with the use of flexible technology will roll off the assembly line in the first quarter of 1986.

DOING SCHOOLWORK IN ONES OR TWOS?

What is the best way to organize children's schoolwork? This question puzzles not only teachers, but also psychologists. The magazine, NAUKA I ZHIZN describes a psychological experiment at one of the schools in the Ukrainian capital, Kiev.

The children, all second graders, were asked to solve several problems, which were rather complicated for their age. One of these was to find the shortest route between two points after overcoming all sorts of obstacles. The problem was similar to being given an assignment to drive a car along the shortest possible route, bypassing ravines, mountains, rivers, etc.

At first, the children tackled all the problems by themselves. They were later divided into three groups with the same number of children including those with top and low marks for efficiency in solving problems. In the first group, the children continued to work alone.

In the second they were told to work in twos, and in the third, the pairs were arranged so that one of the children played the part of teacher and the other that of pupil.

In all three groups, all the second-grade children completed ten problems, and then each pupil was asked to work on his or her own again.

It turned out that when the problems were difficult, the junior schoolchildren did them better when they worked on them together than when they were on their own. This type of work was most beneficial to those children who first showed inferior performance. By the end of the experiment the children with better performance showed lower results, possibly because they had been carried away by their role as teacher and lost control of their performing abilities. The advantages of joint work were best revealed in the groups where the rates in each pair had been arranged beforehand.

The experiment has opened up new possibilities for improving the educational process in junior schools and has proved that efficiency in school work depends on the play situation chosen and on the assignment of roles.

ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

TAMRIKO GVERDTSITELI



Though the Georgian singer, Tamriko Gverdtsiteli made her first appearance on the professional variety stage only a few years ago, she gained immediate recognition. She won the all-Union contest of Soviet song for young singers, and then first prize at the "Red Carnation" international youth festival in Sofia.

able, my mother who teaches music, says that I began to sing when I was ten months old even before I could talk, and that I began to pick out notes on the piano at three, says Tamriko. Aged ten, Tamriko sang with "The Melodi", a vocal and instrumental ensemble at the Tbilisi Palace of Young Pioneers and Schoolchildren. She was one of the very first members of the ensemble which competed successfully in popularity with many of the established variety groups.

In a few months' time, Tamriko will be graduating from the Tbilisi Conservatoire, where she is studying the piano. She is a soloist with the variety and symphony orchestra at Georgia radio and television.

Tamriko has unusual musical and lyrical gifts, and she has a keen feeling for harmony, says her Georgian singer, Nani Bregvadze. The tunes she writes herself are a vivid evocation of the Georgian soul.

Tamriko's day is packed from start to finish. Apart from her classes at the Conservatoire, she gives concerts and makes recordings for television and radio. A recording studio is making a disc of the best songs she has sung over the past two years.

Music has become the basis of my entire life, says Tamriko. I am going back to study composition at the Conservatoire. I want to write songs professionally. And I want my new songs to be liked by my audiences.

'La Traviata' back at the Bolshoi Theatre

After a thirty-year interval the Bolshoi opera company in Moscow has done a new production of Verdi's opera, "La Traviata".

There have been over one and a half thousand performances of this opera at the Bolshoi since it was first produced here in 1872. This year's production is different from all previous ones. Cuts made to the score have been restored, and the staging is in keeping with the composer's original idea.

"La Traviata" is one of the most brilliant and tragic of operas, says Bolshoi conductor Aigis Zguridze. However, its wide popularity and frequent performances have made it too familiar. We seek to remove this negative familiarity and to return to the composer's tempos and interpretation.

Brass and percussion contest

An all-Union contest of brass, wind and percussion instrument musicians is taking place in Alma-Ata, capital of Kazakhstan. About 180 musicians from 30 cities in this country, including 20 Muscovites, are participating.

There are five categories in the contest: trumpet, trombone, French horn, tuba and percussion instruments.

No more than five participants will be competing in the final stage. In each round the competitors have to perform a programme which includes Russian and foreign classical music, as well as the works of Soviet and modern foreign composers.

The jury's president is Vladimir Agolnikov.

The contest provides young performers with an opportunity of testing their skills, artistic mastery and discipline. Such contests arouse great interest in this country and are attended by hundreds of people who fill halls to capacity. There are three or more all-Union contests specializing in various instruments held in this country every year.

Boris IVASHKOVICH

AFGHAN THEMES

"Afghanistan in Struggle and in Construction" is the title of a poetry series by young Afghan poets, which was translated into the Turkmen language by Ashkhabad poet Nohabuly Redzhepov.

The poet has long been interested in the history, culture and traditions of the friendly Afghan people, their heroic struggle, and Afghan-Turkmen relations. Several years ago he was on an assignment in the isolated region, which is home to many

eastern nationalities, including the Afghans and the Baluchis. There he studied old folk songs, fairy tales and legends of the people. His impressions of the trip were reflected in his poem "Roviyeh", which tells the readers of the life of an Afghan woman and the eternal theme of love and courage common to all peoples.

Afghanistan also features in Redzhepov's newly completed "The Bowl of Dzhemshid".

Turgenev libretto found

The Russian Literature Institute in Moscow has been presented with a xerocopy of an unknown work by the 19th-century Russian writer, Ivan Turgenev, by Professor Waddington of New Zealand. This is the libretto for an opera in German without a title. The Institute

has also received other materials from abroad intended for the 30-volume edition of Turgenev's complete works and letters to be published here. In recent months more than five hundred letters have been received from Britain, France, Italy, Japan and the United States.

An exhibition of the works of the well-known Soviet artist, Isaac Brodsky (1884-1938) has opened at the galleries of the USSR Academy of Arts. The 200 works on view come from over thirty museums and private collections. An artist of diverse talents, a master of historical painting, a remarkable portrait and landscape painter, and splendid drawer, Brodsky — a pupil of the great Ilya Repin, was one of the founders of Soviet realist painting.



Isaac Brodsky. "Portrait of Ilya Repin".

"Alupka".

To India with 'The Elephant Child'

The Bolshoi Puppet Theatre Company are touring India with a production of their show "The Elephant Child", based on Rudyard Kipling's fairy tale. They will be performing to young spectators in Delhi and other cities as well as in the Nepalese capital Kathmandu. Also in the repertoire for the tour is the Russian fairy tale "The Story of Yemelya", staged by Vladimir Sudakovskiy, the company's director.

This is the Bolshoi Puppet Theatre's first visit to India though their work is well known in Hungary, Poland, France, and Japan. On two previous occasions the company was awarded top international prizes: the Gold Medal of the Puppet Theatre Festival in Plovdiv and the Festival of Puppet Plays.

POLITICAL PAMPHLET ON STAGE

A new play by Gennik Borovik called "Agent-00" has recently opened at the Moscow Mayakovskiy Theatre. The action takes place in an invented country. In genre, this is a political pamphlet which exposes the hypocritical peace-loving statements of political leaders who are only concerned with their own well-being and are leading the world to nuclear disaster.



PREMIERE OF 18th-CENTURY OPERA

The first ever production in this country of "Alceide", an opera by the major Russian 18th-century composer, Dmitry Bortnyansky, was given recently in Kiev, two centuries after it was written.

The Kiev Chamber Orchestra plus soloists and a boy choir gave a concert performance of the piece (which was composed in 1778) on the stage of the local Philharmonic Society. The title role, the young Alceide, was sung by E. Kurmangaliyev, a student from the Moscow Chiesnyy Musical and Pedagogical Institute.

The production was made possible (thanks to the Soviet music historians — Yu. Keldysh of

Moscow and N. Gorkhich-Kiev who found the score "Alceide" in the Library of the British Museum.

Bortnyansky wrote the opera in Italy where he went to prove his skills in composition. The staging of this and other operas in Venice and Rome earned the Russian composer the reputation of one of the major masters of European music of his time. Beautiful sonatas and dances, works with their distinct Italian and rich melodies are known. Today, they have been given another lease of life in the repertoire of many of the orchestras in the Ukraine Republic.

WHAT'S ON!

March 24-26

THEATRES

Kremlin Palace of Congresses (Kremlin). 24 (mat) — Concert by the Bolshoi soloists; 24 (eve) — Delibes, "Coppelia" (ballet); 25 (mat) — Puccini, "Madama Butterfly" (opera); 25 (eve) — Beryozka Dance Ensemble.

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.). 24 (mat) — Molchanov, "The Dawns Here Are Quiet" (opera); 24 (eve) Puccini, "Tosca" (opera); 25 (mat) — Tchaikovsky, "The Nutcracker" (ballet); 25 (eve) — Wagner, "Das Rheingold" (opera).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.). 24 — Shostakovich, "Katerina Izmailova" (opera); 25 (mat) — Balasanyan, "Shakuntala" (ballet); 25 (eve) — Tchaikovsky, "Iolanthe" (opera); 26 (mat) — Gladkov, "The Elder Son" (opera); 26 (eve) — Adam, Delibes, "Coppelia" (ballet).

Operetta Theatre (6 Pushkinskaya St.). 24 (mat and eve) — Gladkov, "Khoti bych" 24

FILMS

Legend of the Wild West. A film about a hero who fights for nature protection, a man who has dedicated his whole life to the preservation of Nature.

Cinema: "Orbita" (2 Moscow St.). Metro Kolomenskaya St.

A Sparrow on the Ice. A story about a boy who dreamed of becoming a hockey player.

Cinema: "Ogoniok" (80 Gogolevsky Blvd.). Metro Parkovaya St.

BUSINESS

'Metalloobrabotka-84'

About 500 foreign firms and organizations from 20 countries and West Berlin will be demonstrating their goods at the international "Metalloobrabotka-84" exhibition to be held in the Soviet capital from March 27 to April 5. The Soviet Union will be putting more than 300 items on display.

The USSR machine-tool industry turns out over 3,000 different types of metal-cutting lathes and machines. Multipurpose and specialized large-and-medium equipment, multipurpose casting machines and casting equipment, as well as hundreds of thousands of different sized instruments and measures. Special attention in the industry is paid to the technical level of numerically controlled machine tools. Multipurpose machine

tools with automatic changing of tools have been widely introduced into industry. These are "processing centres" ensuring a 3-8 times growth in productivity.

Such multipurpose numerically controlled lathes produced by machine-tool plants at Ivanovo, Leningrad and Odessa will be displayed at the exhibition. As to technical details, these machine tools meet the standards of the best foreign makes, and in some cases even surpass them.

By the end of the five-year plan period (1981-85) the USSR machine-tool industry will produce about 7,500 industrial robots and automatic manipulators. This kind of equipment will be represented at the exhibition by a robotized

NEW ROLLING MILL



Work has been completed on a rolling mill at Moscow's Serp i Molot metal works which is capable of producing 220 thousand tonnes of rolled stock a year. The mill is computer controlled.

The bulk of the equipment came from the German Democratic Republic and the assembly work was performed by Soviet specialists under the manufacturer's supervision.

Industrial products from the GDR are used in the USSR for

expansion and modernization purposes. For instance, Soviet rail has received passenger carriages and marine services have acquired large ships.

On the other hand, Soviet-made equipment is used for similar purposes in the GDR, specifically for energy. The Soviet Union is the main supplier of equipment for GDR nuclear stations. Soviet natural gas, timber, petroleum and cotton, iron ore and other raw materials are also of great importance to the GDR.

RRTK-3031 numerically controlled turning complex made in Ryazan, and the BR SK OI turning machine-tool complex made at the Berdichev Komsolets plant. Such complexes relieve people from monotonous labour and hard operations and are distinguished for their high economic performance.

At the exhibition the USSR will be represented by a programmed-control light beam machine tool for processing superstrong materials such as diamonds, ceramics and corundum by laser beam.

New designs for instruments will occupy a large space on Soviet stands.

25 years of cooperation

A quarter of a century ago, the USSR and Vietnam signed an agreement on scientific cooperation. It began with the training of scientific personnel for Vietnam. The names of Vietnamese scientists who graduated from Soviet universities in the 50s are now well known in the country. Over this 25-year period, the Soviet Union has provided training for more than 20 thousand specialists, including 2,000 candidates of science and 70 doctors of science.

The 1978 Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and Vietnam opened up new opportunities for the two countries. 165 different subjects have been jointly developed on a long-term basis for the benefit of both countries. These include such areas as agricultural sciences, oceanography, geology and tropical medicine. The level achieved in this cooperation can be seen from the Soviet-Vietnamese space mission of V. Gorbalko and Pham Tuan.

Contacts and contracts

Under the contracts which have been signed by the Union Foreign Trade Association, Technoport and Prommashimport with the Finnish firms of Finstol, Tampella and others, this country will receive equipment for industries producing meat, dairy products, wood pulp and paper.

The All-Union Foreign Trade Associations of Stankimport, Sudimport, and Technoport have signed contracts with the Yugoslav enterprises, and Jugoslovenia, investment and Jugoslovenia according to which this country is to supply Yugoslavia with Soviet metal-cutting tools, forging and pressing equipment, and ball bearings, while the Soviet Union is to receive from Yugoslavia twenty specialized river boats for transporting vegetables and 200 electric conveyors for grain silos.

SOVIET EXPERTISE FOR HUNGARIAN MICROPROCESSORS

The new Institute for Microelectronics in the Hungarian capital Budapest has completed the first stage in preparations for mass production of integrated circuits to be made under Soviet license.

For the operation of the first conveyor production line, the USSR has supplied Hungary with Soviet-made instruments and various types of technology.

The Soviet side has delivered the necessary items: on time, and the quality of the equipment corresponds to the requirements specified in the contract, said the institute director Tamás Strausz.

SOVINCENTR

BALLROOM DANCING LOVERS SHOULD NOT MISS ALL STARS-84

A show dance-contest sponsored by V/O Sovincenr at the Moscow International Trade Center, on March 31. Guests will enjoy a gala-parade of youth, beauty and grace by top dancers from Moscow, Leningrad, Tallinn, and Riga, winners of numerous international and all-Union dance competitions, and nominal MISS & MISTER BALLROOM DANCING for 1984.

HAVE A GOOD EVENING!
(Entrance fee includes light supper)
Tel: 251-27-63
251-27-60

TEN YEARS OF LINKS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

In connection with the tenth anniversary of an agreement on scientific and technological cooperation signed between the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology and Schering, the West German firm, a delegation from latter company recently visited Moscow. A memorandum signed on the results of the visit, specifically stresses the desire of both sides to promote bilateral links in science and technology. The agreement, concluded early in 1974, was prolonged indefinitely. It provides for a broad exchange of information and of specialists and for the organization of seminars and symposiums. The partners test products and exchange the results obtained, as well as carrying out joint development of new products and technologies. Hericides, fertilizers and pharmaceuticals are the main areas of cooperation, with herbicides accounting for the better half of the firm's exports to the Soviet Union, and galvanotechnical equipment taking second place. For its part Schering buys Soviet chemicals and certain types of raw materials.

PROMMASHIMPORT—OVER 1,500 CONTRACTS IN 1983

This year will see the 20th anniversary of the Prommashimport foreign trade association which today does business with hundreds of firms and organizations from nearly 30 countries. Prommashimport's cooperation with Finland has reached massive proportions, says G. Shchukin, the association's Director-General. To give some examples: we have constructed the Kostomuksha ore-dressing and Svetogorsk pulp-and-paper mills, as well as supply equipment to factories producing agricultural machinery, building materials, standard houses and furniture.

Philately

First cosmonaut honoured



The Ministry of Communications of the USSR has issued a 15-kopek stamp marking the 50th anniversary since the birth of Yuri Gagarin, Hero of the Soviet Union, Pilot-Cosmonaut of the USSR who was the first man up in space.

The artist is German Komlev.